January, 1998

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's a New Year! And a new year for our Club. As the newly elected President, I'm now taking over this wonderful column that out-going President Graham Beaumont started. I've got some big shoes to fill here. Wish me luck!

A new year starts with wishes and resolutions. My wish for the neighborhood is a safe and prosperous year. And, a resolution I think we should all make

is to go to more SMPIC meetings. After the Holidaze, I got the '97 officers and '98 offi-

cers together for a meeting. We agreed that we needed to make the monthly general Club meetings more interesting for everyone. We've got some ideas that we want to share with you

at the January meeting, and, we want to hear what you would like to see happen at meetings. Please come, have some coffee and cake, and help the Club better meet the needs of the neighborhood.

Of course, as President, I have my own goals for '98. I'd like to see us maintain and increase safety in the Park. This includes getting more Safe Watch programs set up on more blocks, getting the police more involved in our neighborhood, and working on traffic issues. I want to see Rec. & Park take more interest (\$\$\$) in our playground and park facilities. I want to increase active membership in the Club. And, I'd like to see us expand on last year's homebound committee by organizing a neigh-

borhood "Lend a Hand" Committee.

This is an idea that Marlo Contreras developed and I think it's pretty good.
Why a "Lend a Hand" committee? Well,

there are neighbors—some elderly, some home-bound due to illness—who need a little help with running errands, shopping, gardening, etc. This committee could be a good way to assist our neighbors and foster community spirit. Interested? Come to the January meeting to talk about it.

A new year also brings a new set of advertisers to our newsletter. Please patronize the businesses that advertise in the Park Bell. And, when you do, let them know that you live in St. Mary's Park and that you read the Park Bell. I want to thank Danna Peterson and Josie Spavone for recruiting the advertisers. Their hard work enables us to have this beautiful newsletter for another year.

Above all, I wish you all a great 1998!

Jama Ramey

Neighborhood News!!!

Long time resident rose expert, Florence Kolos, received a Bronze Medal from the American Rose Society for her outstanding service to the San Francisco Rose Society and the American Rose Society. This honor is bestowed on a select group of people throughout the country annually.

Florence has published the SF Rose Society's newsletter for the last 25 years.

And, if you walk past her home in the summer, you can see her master's touch with her beautiful roses.

Congratulations, Florence!

Condolences

Our heartfelt condolences to the family of Carlo Travagilini, who recently passed away. Carlo lived in the park for over 40 years and had served as a past President for the SMPIC. He is survived by his wife, Norma, a son and two grandsons. He will be sorely missed by family and friends alike. Those of us on Genebern will especially miss his sense of humor and his cheerful presence.

St. Mary's Park Crime Watch

The Ingleside Police Station provided the following information about crimes reported in St. Mary's Park and the surrounding area.

Type of Crime	12/96	12/97
Robbery	2	1
Assault	2	2
Burglary	1	2
Theft	4	1
Auto	6	5
Other	22	66
Total	37	17

During December, only three reported incidents occurred in St. Mary's Park itself. A petty theft occurred in the first block of Justin. An elderly man was found dead in his car in the first block of Murray St. A truck was stolen in an undisclosed area of the Park. The other crimes reported to the Police occurred primarily on Appleton, Richland and Mission St. Park residents are strongly encouraged to report ALL suspicious activity to the Police. We all can help to keep the Park safe by making sure the Police are aware of each and every crime that occurs in our neighborhood.

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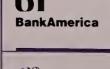




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SMPIC MEETING AGENDA

- · Club Goals for '98
- Making Meetings More Fun
- Committees

Refreshments will be served.

Join us on Tuesday, January 13, 1998 at 7:30 pm in the St. Mary's Park Rec Center Auditorium and have some fun!

VOLUNTEER NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH BLOCK CAPTAINS

Several Park neighbors have volunteered to be block captains, organizing their blocks for the Safe Watch program, but there is still a need for more captains--how about volunteering? It's not difficult and it's a great way to meet all of your neighbors. To volunteer or for more information, contact Marlo Contreras at 587-7759.



COMMITTEES SEEK VOLUNTEERS

Would you like to get involved in one of the many activities of St. Mary's Park Improvement Club? Here's a list of committees and events we hold throughout the year. Being involved means coming to a meeting or two, and giving a little of your time to your neighborhood. It also means meeting new people and having fun. If you're interested in being a volunteer, please call Jonna Ramey at 285-7425.

Easter Egg Hunt
Garage Sale
Mother's Day Neighborhood Cleanup
Fall Picnic
Holiday Party
Santa's Visit
Lend A Hand Committee
Park & Rec Liaison Committee
Safe Watch Block Captains



HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS IN THE PARK

December was a big month for the Club. The December meeting included a great holiday party with a pinata for the kids. You should have seen them scramble when the snowman cracked open. Candy, small toys and children flew across the auditorium stage. Hors d'oeuvres and desserts were supplied by many neighbors. Bill Fossett manned the bar. Shirley Bernstein played the piano and lead the group in singing carol.

But the real excitement came on Friday, December 19th, when Santa Claus made a surprise visit to the Park. He walked the entire neighborhood, handing out candy canes to young and old, listening to Christmas lists and spreading cheer wherever he went. Many thanks to Santa's helpers, including Bill Fossett, Guido Guinasso, Joe Guinasso and Santa's special helper Dan Guinasso. You know, Santa has been visiting the Park every year since 1941. St. Mary's Park is pretty special, don't you think?

NEW CLUB OFFICERS INSTALLED

At the December SMPIC meeting, the membership voted for new officers. They were subsequently sworn into office by Guido Guinasso. The newly elected officers are: President Jonna Ramey; Vice President Scott Feldman; Secretary Mary Ramirez; Finance Officer Alex Balderramos; Sergeant at Arms Florence Kolos. Also appointed to volunteer posts were: Park Bell Editor Pam Waterstone and Sunshine Person Armando Pulido. Congratulations to all!

NEW ADDITIONS!!

Congratulations to Marvin Norman and Tamara Lightfoot on the recent birth of their daughter!!!



Also, we wish to extend a warm welcome to our new neighbors at 245 Genebern!

1998 St. Mary's Park Improvement Club Officers Office Name Phone Number **Email Address** President Jonna Ramey 285-7425 jramey@quartetcreative.com scottfabu@aol.com Vice President Scott Feldman 585-9181 Secretary Mary Ramirez 587-7759 Finance Officer Alex Balderramos 648-0881 Sergeant at Arms Florence Kolos 333-6462 & Park Bell Publisher Armando Pulido 239-4221 apulido536@aol.com Sunshine Person Park Bell Editor Pam Waterstone 585-5156 rlowey@sirius.com

JOIN THE CLUB!!!

St. Mary's Park Improvement Club is 57 years strong! In fact, we believe we're the City's oldest operating neighborhood association. Support the work of the Club, renew your membership or join today. Whether you rent or own your own home, if you live or work in the neighborhood, you should belong to the Club. And, this year, if you renew or join by March 31st, we will send you a copy of our new St. Mary's Park Welcome Kit. It's a nifty brochure that gives you a history of the Park, the Club and useful information, to boot.

Top 10 Reasons To Pay Your '98 Club Dues

10. Fun family events like the annual Easter Egg Hunt, Pumpkin Carving Contest and Santa's visit.

9. Club meetings give me a chance to meet neighbors and make friends.

8. The great food and games at the annual Picnic.

7. I can stay up on and involved with issues that affect my home, family and neighborhood.

6. The Park Bell newsletter is informative and entertaining reading.

5. An involved, organized neighborhood is a safer neighborhood.

4. The islands on College, Benton and Murray get maintained.

3. Great bargains at the annual neighborhood-wide Garage Sale.

2. If I do it now, I get a free Welcome Kit.

1. Supporting the Club is supporting my neighborhood!



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